



DEPARTMENT OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES  
CITY OF CHICAGO

July 31, 2019

Matt Chapman  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 76352  
411A Highland Ave.  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Sent via email: [76352-16698090@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:76352-16698090@requests.muckrock.com)

Dear Mr. Chapman:

On behalf of the Department of Procurement Services (DPS), I am responding to your July 1, 2019 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request and your July 17, 2019 follow up email wherein you seek the following:

*"A copy of all intergovernmental agreements."*

DPS replied to your initial request within a timely manner, indicating that the request was burdensome.

On July 17, 2019, you submitted a follow up to our response stating:

*"The records that I am seeking are those agreements that were created to satisfy the statutory requirements from (5 ILCS 220/) Intergovernmental Cooperation Act and other acts which include references to intergovernmental agreements, their creation, or maintenance. Of note, (5 ILCS 220/3.2). I am not sure how much further narrowing you'll need, as these are standard agreements throughout Illinois that should be readily available to maintain statutory requirements. Please reach out to the respective director, as defined by the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act."*

Your request still lacks a timeframe and as written, processing this request would place undue burden on staff and resources. Per the July 16, 2019 DPS response letter:

Regarding your request for "all intergovernmental agreements" your request is overly burdensome under FOIA. The FOIA provides in 5 ILCS 140/3(g) that requests for all records falling within a category shall be complied with unless compliance with the request would be unduly burdensome for the complying public body and there is no way

to narrow the request and the burden on the public body outweighs the public interest in the information.

In order to comply with your request as written, this department would need to identify, procure and review an unknown quantity of records. Without direction from you as to which specific records you seek, such an endeavor would pose an undue burden on the operations of this department. In order to effectively perform a diligent search, DPS will need at minimum, a specific timeframe in which to search.

It is necessary that your FOIA request be narrowed and clarified. If you would like assistance in narrowing your request, please contact me, and I will assist you. Otherwise, for the reasons provided above, DPS is unable to respond to your FOIA request as currently drafted.

If you agree to narrow your request, you must submit a revised written request to my attention. DPS will take no further action or send you any further correspondence unless and until your current request is narrowed in writing. If we do not receive your narrowed request within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of this letter, your current request will be denied.

In the event that we do not receive a narrowed request and your current FOIA request is therefore denied, you have the right to have a denial reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706, (877) 299-3642. You also have the right to seek judicial review of your denial by filing a lawsuit in Cook County Circuit Court.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shiovhan Boykin". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "S" and a cursive "Boykin".

Shiovhan Boykin  
DPS FOIA Officer